

Amendments

In the Claims:

At claims 1-7, line 1 delete "or shade";

At claim 1 line 2 after "shell having insert - - interior surface and an - -;

At claim 1, line 4 delete "an" and substitute - - a translucent - -;

At claim 1, line 5 after "shell" insert - - and - -;

At claim 1, line 7 after "applied" insert - - said translucent interior cylinder encompassing all or portions of said light fixture and bulb and physically separating said said light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb from said interior surface of said hollow pliant shell - -

At claim 8 line 4 after "shell having insert - - interior surface and an - -;

At claim 8, line 6 delete "an" and substitute - - a translucent - -;

At claim 8, line 7 after "shell" insert - - and - -;

At claim 8, line 9 after "applied" insert - said translucent interior cylinder encompassing all or portions of said light fixture and bulb and physically separating said said light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb from said interior surface of said hollow pliant shell - -

Add the following new claims 16-18:

16) (New) The decorative lamp cover of claim 1 wherein said translucent interior cylinder has opposing first and second ends, said first opposing end is closed and said second opposing end includes an aperture for the insertion

and engagement of the light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb to which the lamp cover is applied.

17) (New) The decorative lamp of claim 8 wherein said translucent interior cylinder has first and second opposing open ends that are both open, is integral with said exterior surface at the first of said opposing ends and includes an aperture at the second opposing end for the insertion of and engagement with the light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb.

18) (New) The lamp cover or shade of claim 16 wherein said hollow pliant shell is translucent and portions of said hollow pliant shell are rendered opaque.

all as shown on the attached Listing of Claims.

Remarks

Claims 1-15 are currently pending in the application.

Claims 1-15 stand objected to in the inclusion of the word “or” in claims 1 and 8. While Applicant does not fully comprehend which occurrence of “or” the Examiner objects to that appearing between “cover” and “shade” has been eliminated by the foregoing amendments. As to the other occurrences of “or”, Applicant traverses this objection on the basis that the use of the word “or” is indeed proper in the context of these claims, i.e. the interior cylinder integrally formed with the hollow pliant shell is of a size and shape as to elastically engage the exterior of a light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb to which the lamp cover is applied. By this is clearly meant that the interior cylinder can engage any one of the recited elements, but need not engage all of them as clearly and unequivocally explained in the specification. It is therefore respectfully submitted that use of the term “or” in this context is proper and the objection to such usage should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. No. 5,822,088 to Danno et al. It is the Examiner’s position that Danno et al. describe a decorative lamp comprising a lighting fixture including a socket, a light bulb, a hollow pliant shell having a decorative shape and an interior cylinder integrally formed with the shell that engages the exterior surface of the socket, and also the

Danno et al. disclose that the housing is formed of plastic and the interior cylinder is formed of rubber or flexible plastic. As to those elements not specifically taught in Danno et al. such as: the use of a high temperature material; a colored or translucent shell having certain opaque areas; and the use of a lens or globe over the light bulb, the Examiner alleges that the inclusion of such elements would have been obvious to the skilled artisan.

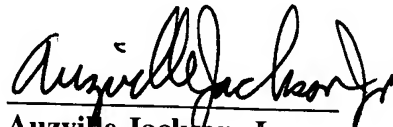
It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing amendments to the claims which set forth additional elements such as that the interior cylinder is integrally formed with the hollow pliant shell and that the interior cylinder physically separates the engaged electrical member from the interior of the pliant shell set forth clear and distinct differences structural differences between the lamp cover of Danno et al and that of the present invention.

Claims 1-15 stand further rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious in view of the teachings of Danno et al. Initially, Applicant wishes to point out that the claims as currently presented are intended to cover only those embodiments of the invention as depicted in Figures 11-16 of the application. As such, the claims as now presented with the foregoing amendments are directed to the embodiments specifically shown and described in connection with these Figures of the application. Accordingly, the claims as now set forth include the following elements: the interior cylinder is translucent; the interior cylinder encompasses the light fixture and the bulb; and the interior cylinder physically separates the light fixture, light bulb, lens

or bulb cover from the interior surface of the hollow pliant shell. None of these features is described or suggested in the disclosure of Danno et al. nor would such a structure be obvious in view of any reading of Danno et al. In the dependent claims, 16 and 17, an interior cylinder having one end closed as shown in Figures 11, 12, 15 and 16 is claimed, while in claim 18 specifies that the interior cylinder is integral with the exterior surface at one of its open ends and includes an aperture for the insertion of an appropriate light fixture, light bulb, lens etc. at the opposing end. None of these features is described or suggested by Danno et al. and no skilled artisan seeing the disclosure of Danno et al. would be led to modify same to obtain the claimed lamp cover structure now claimed.

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims and the remarks presented herein above, it is respectfully submitted that the application now stands in condition for allowance, and the same is most earnestly solicited at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

 12/29/05
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Listing of Claims

- 1) (Currently Amended) A lamp cover ~~or shade~~ comprising:
 - A) a hollow pliant shell having an interior surface and an exterior surface in the form of a decorative shape; and
 - B) ~~[[an]]~~ a translucent interior cylinder integrally formed with said hollow pliant shell and of a size and shape as to elastically engage the exterior of a light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb to which the lamp cover is applied, said translucent interior cylinder encompassing all or portions of said light fixture and bulb and physically separating said light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb from said interior surface of said hollow pliant shell.
- 2) (Currently Amended) The lamp cover ~~or shade~~ of claim 1 fabricated from a high temperature resistant polymeric material.
- 3) (Currently Amended) The lamp cover ~~or shade~~ of claim 2 wherein said polymeric material is stable at temperatures in excess of 200° C.
- 4) (Currently Amended) The lamp cover ~~or shade~~ of claim 3 wherein said high temperature resistant polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of silicone polymers and silicone rubbers.

- 5) (Currently Amended) The lamp cover ~~or shade~~ of claim 1 wherein said hollow pliant shell is colored.
- 6) (Currently Amended) The lamp cover ~~or shade~~ of claim 1 wherein said hollow pliant shell is translucent.
- 7) (Currently Amended) The lamp cover ~~or shade~~ of claim 1 wherein portions of said hollow pliant shell are rendered opaque.
- 8) (Currently Amended) A decorative lamp comprising:
- A) a lighting fixture having an exterior surface and including a socket, and a light bulb;
 - B) a hollow pliant shell having an interior surface and an exterior surface in the form of a decorative shape; and
 - C) [[an]] a translucent interior cylinder integrally formed with said hollow pliant shell and of a size and shape as to elastically engage the exterior surface of the light fixture, socket or bulb to which the decorative lamp cover is applied said translucent interior cylinder encompassing all or portions of said light fixture and bulb and physically separating said light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb from said interior surface of said hollow pliant shell.

9) (Original) The decorative lamp of claim 8 fabricated from a high temperature resistant polymeric material.

10) (Original) The decorative lamp of claim 9 wherein said polymeric material is stable at temperatures in excess of 200° C.

11) (Original) The decorative lamp of claim 10 wherein said high temperature resistant polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of silicone polymers and silicone rubbers.

12) (Original) The decorative lamp of claim 8 wherein said hollow pliant shell is colored.

13) (Original) The decorative lamp of claim 8 wherein said hollow pliant shell is translucent.

14) (Original) The decorative lamp of claim 8 wherein portions of said hollow pliant shell are opaque.

15) (Original) The decorative lamp of claim 8 further including a lens or globe over the light bulb that is engaged by the integral interior cylinder.

16) (New) The decorative lamp cover of claim 1 wherein said translucent interior cylinder has opposing first and second ends, said first opposing end is closed and said second opposing end includes an aperture for the insertion and engagement of the light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb to which the lamp cover is applied.

17) (New) The decorative lamp of claim 8 wherein said translucent interior cylinder has first and second opposing open ends that are both open, is integral with said exterior surface at the first of said opposing ends and includes an aperture at the second opposing end for the insertion of and engagement with the light fixture, light fixture lens, bulb cover or bulb.

19) (New) The lamp cover or shade of claim 16 wherein said hollow pliant shell is translucent and portions of said hollow pliant shell are rendered opaque.